

DYLAN EVANS, the man who scored all four goals for Wycombe Wanderers against Walthamstow Avenue in November, will miss tomorrow's (Saturday) return Rothmans Isthmian League encounter at Loakes Park. Evans plays for Wales against Ireland.

Graham Mackenzie is the only other absentee. He is representing England Schools against Wales in Cardiff. Wanderers will have a full squad to select from and will be anxious Larry Pritchard comes through in England's match against Scotland at Coventry tonight (Friday).

Manager Brian Lee is unlikely to change the side that beat Hayes 3-0 away on Monday night — Wycombe's first victory in five games and their first goals in 379 minutes of football. Evans was substitute on that occasion and the chances are Tony Price will take over the number 12 shirt.

With confidence high again, Wanderers will not be satisfied with anything less than the maximum three points tomorrow. As previously stated, they have already won 4-0 at Green Pond Lane, but that victory was distinctly marred by the injury to Keith Searle, who snapped a ligament in his knee.

Avenue, however, will not be as easy as their lowly league position suggests. They have lost only once in their last nine games, a last minute goal giving Woking the verdict 2-1. In those nine matches they have kept a clean sheet on six occasions,

including a 0-0 draw at Oxford City last week.

The defensive performances spell trouble to Wycombe, who must win tomorrow if they are to stay in the title race.

Since the 4-0 victory in November, six players have left Walthamstow. One new face at the club is defender Ken Bowen, who was playing for Swansea City reserves earlier in the season.

Two of the leading players this term are skipper and centre half Brian Wilson, always a formidable opponent, and Terry Howard, the former England Amateur international. Howard is the club's top scorer with 11 this season while Alan Carrington and the veteran Brian Jackson have ten each.

ROTHMANS ISTHMIAN LEAGUE						
Division One						
	P	W	D	L	F	A Pts
Wycombe	32	21	6	5	79	25 69
Dulwich	34	18	11	5	56	26 65
Hendon	28	19	7	2	49	11 64
Leytonstone	32	18	7	7	51	26 61
Bishops S	30	17	8	5	60	19 59
Hayes	34	16	10	8	60	36 58
Oxford C	36	13	14	9	37	39 54
Leatherhead	27	15	3	9	55	28 49
Walton & H	26	13	7	6	44	27 47
Ilford	32	13	8	11	43	36 47
Tooting	37	13	8	16	47	51 47
Kingstonian	35	11	12	12	41	37 45
Sutton	33	11	12	10	38	40 45
Barking	37	12	9	16	46	54 45
Hitchin	31	11	10	10	52	47 43
Woking	23	13	2	8	36	34 41
Enfield	34	10	9	15	37	43 39
Walthamstow	35	9	12	14	38	60 38
Bromley	36	7	9	20	35	62 30
Clapton	37	5	3	29	26	120 18
St. Albans	36	4	6	26	28	79 18
C Casuals	34	2	3	29	22	87 9

ONLY THE BEST FORM WILL DO, WYCOMBE

ALTHOUGH Wycombe Wanderers' recent decline, rectified on Monday at Hayes, saw them drop 10 points in four games, a good run to the end of the season could well clinch them the championship. But, without a doubt, only their very best form will do.

The Hayes triumph should do the Blues the world of good, for in that game, they began to reproduce some of the great football that has taken them to the top of the Rothmans Isthmian League. Tomorrow (Saturday) they have a chance to build on that foundation against one of the lesser clubs — Walthamstow Avenue — who have already been beaten 4-0 on their own ground.

On Tuesday (April 9) Wycombe will be out to avenge their first defeat of the term when they entertain Hitchin at Loakes Park. On current form, three points look on the cards here, although Wanderers will have to snuff out the threat of leading scorer Howard Kettleborough, who has 18 goals at present.

Saturday, April 13 sees Wycombe visit Barking, who recently held Hendon to a 1-1 draw. Never an easy side to beat on their own ground, Barking will make the Blues fight all the way. The Berks and Bucks Senior Cup final interrupts the league programme on Easter Monday and Wanderers return to their programme on Thursday, April 25 away to Leatherhead. Three points there will be extremely hard to come by.

Ilford, whose improvement this term has been staggering, visit

Loakes Park on Saturday, the 27th and their form could well depend on the outcome of the Amateur Cup final played seven days previously. Wycombe won at Ilford 3-1 in the opening match of the season but Ilford, managed by former Hendon boss John Evans, will be a different proposition now.

The remaining five matches are all against some of the strongest sides in the league. It could well be that these results will determine the league championship and anything below their top form will cost Wycombe dearly. On Tuesday, April 30, they have the much awaited return with Hendon at Loakes Park. This game in itself will have a marked bearing on the title stakes. Many felt Wycombe were unlucky to go down 1-2 at Claremont Road and without a doubt this encounter, if previous meetings between the two clubs are anything to go by, could be the match of the season.

The other Amateur Cup finalists — Bishop's Stortford — will be next in line for Wycombe on Tuesday, May 7. A repeat of last year's result (5-1 to the Blues) is surely too much to hope for, but a 2-0 win at Loakes Park this season will give the visitors confidence.

Two days later at Loakes Park, Wanderers take on Walton and Hersham, who inflicted their worst defeat of the season, 1-4 at Stompond Lane. On Saturdays May 11 and 18, Wycombe take on Leytonstone home and away — two extremely tough games to conclude a hectic season.